#### A new species of *Lepechinia* (Lamiaceae) from Oaxaca, Mexico

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#### ABSTRACT

A new taxon, Lepechinia oaxacana B.L. Turner, sp. nov., is described from southern Oaxaca. It is closely related to the recently described L. flammea of Guerrero, but differs in a syndrome of characters, mainly leaf size and floral features. A photograph of the holotype is provided, along with a distribution map of the taxa concerned. Published on-line: www.phytologia.org Phytologia 95(2): 138-140 (May 1, 2013).

KEY WORDS: Lamiaceae, Mexico, Guerrero, Oaxaca, Lepechinia, L. flammea, L. glomerata, L. oaxacana

Preoccupation with the Mexican species, Lepechinia glomerata Epling and cohorts, these clearly related to the Californian L. calycina, as documented by the DNA studies of Drew and Sytsma (2011), has occasioned the present paper. Early on, I was prepared to describe a novel taxon from the state of Guerrero, noting its many differences from the poorly known L. glomerata, but was pre-empted by the excellent study of Martinez-Gordillo and Lozado-Perez (2009), who proposed the name L. flammea, for my intended novelty (this to be based upon a single sheet, Martinez et al. 4933, TEX). Recent collections from Oaxaca, gathered through the support of SERBO, have revealed an additional novelty of the L. glomerata complex, this described below.

## LEPECHINIA OAXACANA B.L. Turner, sp, nov. Fig. 1

Perennial herbs, to "1.5 m" high. Stems (upper), sparsely pubescent with crinkly, often branched, trichomes, 1.0-1.4 mm high, beneath these a denser array of minute glandular hairs ca 0.3 mm high. Leaves sessile, amplexicaule, 6-10 cm long, 2-3 cm wide; blades elliptic-lanceolate, widest near the middle, pubescent above and below, mainly along the venation. Inflorescence terminal, 10-15 cm high, 5-7 cm wide; peduncles ca 3 cm long; floral bracts (outer) broadly ovate, 8-10 mm long, and as wide, dark purplish; floriferous branches 2-3 cm long, each bearing 10-15 flowers, the ultimate pedicels ca 1 mm long. Calyces (flowering), ca 6 mm long; lobes 5, united for ca 3 mm, their apices triangular to lanceolate. Corollas 10-12 mm long; tube ca 3 mm long; throats "anaranjada," 8-9 mm long, 3-4 mm wide, their apices not rosy in color (as in *L. flammea*). Anthers purple, ca 1 mm long, excurrent for 3-5 mm. Nutlets, black, smooth, 2.1-2.6 mm long, 1.5-2.0 mm wide.

TYPE: MEXICO. OAXACA: Distrito Sola de Vega, Mpio. Santiago Textitlan, "Paraje abajo de El Portillo, Bosque de pino-encino. Suelo negro." ca 1190 m, 16 43 58.2 N, 27 25 10.3 W, 08/01/07, Idalia Trujillo Olazo (ITO) 1336 (Holotype: TEX).

Lepechinia oaxacana is clearly closely related to the recently described L. flammea of Guerrero (Martinez-Gordillo and Lozado-Perez, 2009). The novelty differs in having a syndrome of distinctive characters: smaller foliage (mostly 6-10 cm long, 2-3 cm wide vs 10-20 cm long, 3-6 cm wide) smaller calyces (ca 6 mm long vs 9-11 mm); smaller corollas (10-12 mm long, 3-4 mm wide vs 16-20 mm long, 6-8 mm wide), their apices not notably rose-colored, or flame-like, as in *L. flammea* (hence its name). The novelty is said to occur in pine-oak woodlands at an elevation of ca 1190 m; L. flammea reportedly occurs at somewhat higher elevations (2000-2700 m).

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# LITERATURE CITED

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Fig. 1. *Lepechinia oaxacana* (Holotype: TEX).

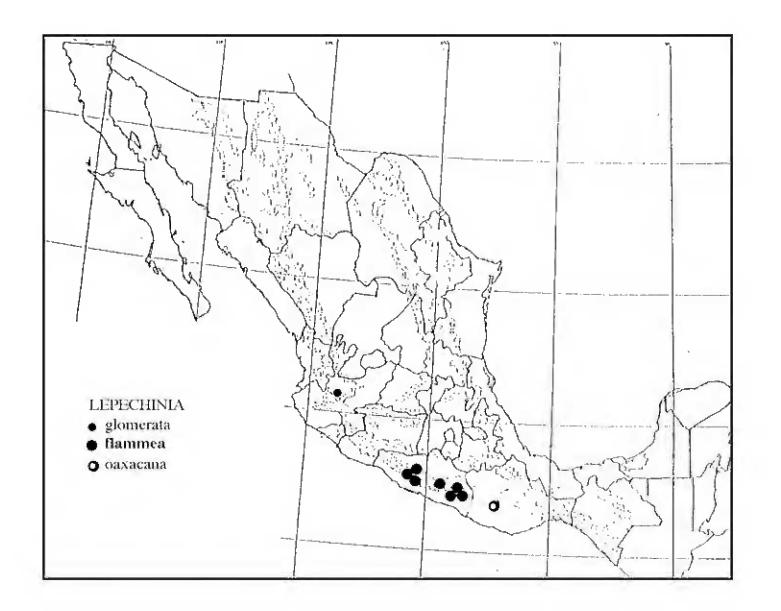


Fig. 2. Distribution of the Lepechinia glomerata complex in Mexico.